AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method to control access to a sector of a flash type memory of an electronic module comprising:

   receiving a write request to write data to an area of a partition, wherein the partition is located within the sector; and

   ~~prior to writing the data:~~

   making a first determination about ~~determining~~ whether an owner of the data to be written has write access to the partition of the sector, and

   making a second determination about whether the owner has permission to erase the entire sector in which the partition is located using a rule, wherein the rule verifies that the write request does not delete data of an owner other than the owner issuing the write request; and

   writing the data to the partition when the first determination and the second determination allow the write request to proceed.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the owner is granted permission to erase the entire sector if at least one of the following conditions is satisfied: the entire sector belongs to the owner, remaining partitions in the sector not belonging to the owner are blank, and the remaining partitions in the sector not belonging to the owner are marked as erasable.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the partition is associated with a status, wherein the status is one selected from the group consisting of erasable, blank, and not blank.

5. (Currently Amended) An electronic module comprising:

    a FLASH type non-volatile memory comprising a sector, wherein the sector comprises a partition;

    a set of rules, wherein the set of rules is used to determine whether an owner of data is granted permission to erase the entire sector<u>, wherein a rule in the set of rules verifies that the write request does not delete data of an owner other than the owner issuing the write request</u>;

    a memory manager, operatively connected to the FLASH type non-volatile memory configured to:

        receive[[ing]] a write request to write the data to an area of the partition, [[and]]

        ~~prior to writing the data,~~ determine[[ing]] whether the owner of the data to be written has write access to the partition and permission to erase the entire sector using the set of rules<u>, and</u>

        <u>write the data to the partition when the determination allows the write request to proceed</u>.

6. (Previously Presented) The electronic module of claim 5, wherein the memory module intercepts all write requests to the FLASH type non-volatile memory.

7. (Previously Presented) The electronic module of claim 5, wherein the memory manager is configured to access a description of the partition, wherein the description comprises the status of the partition.

8. (Previously Presented) A card comprising an electronic module according to claim 5.

9. (Currently Amended) A<u>n electronic assembly including a</u> computer program comprising program code instructions to execute the steps of the method according to claim 1 <u>when the program is executed by the electronic assembly</u>.

10. (Previously Presented) The electronic module of claim 5, wherein the set of rules specifies that the owner is granted permission to erase the entire sector if at least one of the following

conditions is satisfied: the entire sector belongs to the owner, remaining partitions in the sector not belonging to the owner are blank, and the remaining partitions in the sector not belonging to the owner are marked as erasable.

11. (Previously Presented) The electronic module of claim 7, wherein the status is one selected from the group consisting of erasable, blank, and not blank.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program~~ electronic assembly of claim 9, wherein the owner is granted permission to erase the entire sector if at least one of the following conditions is satisfied: the entire sector belongs to the owner, remaining partitions in the sector not belonging to the owner are blank, and the remaining partitions in the sector not belonging to the owner are marked as erasable.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program~~ electronic assembly of claim 9, wherein the partition is associated with a status, wherein the status is one selected from the group consisting of erasable, blank, and not blank.